

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01989 070442Z

ACTION EA-12

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8636

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1989

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: CH, US, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJ: REFERENCE NEWS COVERAGE OF SECRETARY VANCE'S AUGUST 27
US ARRIVAL

1. SUMMARY. REFERENCE NEWS, THE PRC'S MASS CIRCULATION
DIGEST OF FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS, REPORTED SECRETARY VANCE'S
AUGUST 27 ARRIVAL AT ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE. THE REPORTS
INCLUDED PRESIDENT CARTER'S COMMENTS THAT THE TALKS WERE
"HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL" AND A MAJOR STEP TOWARD "OUR ULTIMATE
GOAL" OF NORMALIZATION. END SUMMARY.

2. USLO HAS OBTAINED A TATTERED COPY OF THE FIRST TWO
PAGES OF THE AUGUST 29 ISSUE OF THE PRC'S RESTRICTED
MASS CIRCULATION FOREIGN PRESS DIGEST, REFERENCE NEWS
(TS'AN-KAO HSIAO-HSI) WHICH CONTAINED AUGUST 27 UPI
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AND AP REPORTS OF SECRETARY VANCE'S RETURN TO THE
UNITED STATES. PAGE ONE REFERENCE NEWS REPLAY OF THE
UPI REPORT INCLUDED PRESIDENT CARTER'S COMMENTS THAT
THE SECRETARY'S PEKING VISIT WAS A "MAJOR STEP FORWARD
IN OUR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS" AND "ALTHOUGH OUR
OBJECTIVES WERE DELIBERATELY LIMITED AND EXPLORATORY,
THEY WERE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL." REFERENCE NEWS NOTED

PRESIDENT CARTER'S COMMENTS TO REPORTERS THAT SECRETARY VANCE "HAD A VERY IMPORTANT MISSION TO ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT NATIONS ON EARTH, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA... A COUNTRY OF CENTRAL IMPORTANCE IN THE WORLD". THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT THAT HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSIONS WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE WAS INCLUDED.

3. BEFORE GOING TO THE AIRPORT, THE REPORT CONTINUED, PRESIDENT CARTER AND HIS WIFE MET WITH FOUR OFFICIALS FROM PEKING'S LIAISON OFFICE IN WASHINGTON. THE PRESIDENT HAD A "PARTICULARLY ANIMATED" DISCUSSION WITH HAN HSU, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE MISSION. THE REPORT CONCLUDED BY REPLAYING SECRETARY VANCE'S COMMENTS THAT THE TRIP WAS VERY USEFUL AND THAT IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS INITIAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

4. A SHORT REPLAY OF AN AP REPORT OF THE SAME DAY ADDED THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS THAT CHAIRMAN HUA HAS "SENT WORD BACK TO ME" VANCE'S TRIP WAS FRUITFUL. THE PRESIDENT WAS ALSO QUOTED THAT THE TRIP WAS A MAJOR STEP TOWARD "OUR ULTIMATE GOAL" OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS.

5. COPIES BEING SENT TO HONG KONG AND THE DEPARTMENT
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Message Attributes

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